

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the first full paragraph starting at page 1, line 5, with the following red-lined paragraph:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/187,859, filed November 6, 1998, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,358,920, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/073,040, filed May 5, 1998, now pending, ~~which applications and patent are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.~~